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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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After Heroic Actions, Brewster Dog Earns Widespread Attention

By David Propper

From New York City and Los Angeles, to even England and Australia, everyone wants to know more about Brewster based guide dog Figo, after the golden retriever's heroic actions captured international attention last week.

Owned by Brewster resident Audrey Stone, who is legally blind, Figo jumped in front of an incoming Brewster school district mini bus on June 8 around 8:30 a.m. in an effort to protect Stone who was also struck and injured by the bus. Taking the phrase, "Man's Best Friend," to an unheard of level, Figo suffered a fractured leg and lacerations. Stone, meanwhile, suffered a broken ankle, elbow, and ribs, and head wound, according to Brewster Police Chief John Del Gardo in an article by the Associated Press. She was rushed

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COURTESY OF MIDDLEBRANCH VET

Figo, a Brewster based service dog has been the center of attention since his heroic actions to save his owner from a possibly fatal bus accident.

Stiebeling's Lawsuit Against County, Odell Dismissed

By David Propper

A lawsuit filed by former Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Adam Stiebeling has been dismissed, finally closing a chapter that sent the emergency services community into further turmoil since the start of the New Year when Stiebeling lost his job.

Putnam County State Supreme Court Justice Victor Grossman rendered the decision on June 3 to toss out the lawsuit against the county and County Executive MaryEllen Odell, citing a technicality in which Stiebeling failed to file an oath of office within 30 days after he was appointed back on Dec. 27, 2012. While Odell had asserted she had the authority to relieve Stiebeling of his duty because his term expired, the six-page decision states Stiebeling's case was thrown out because he signed his oath of office on

March 29, 2013, "well beyond the 30-day limit."

"The oath's significance is a fundamental aspect of the role of a public officer; its omission is not a technical defect that can be waived," Grossman wrote.

Stiebeling fired off a lawsuit on Jan. 30 after Odell informed him he no longer had a position with the county only a few days into her new term in office. Stiebeling's attorney, Michael Sussman, alleged Odell didn't have the authority to push Stiebeling out because she needed two-thirds approval from the Putnam County Legislature to take that action.

The lawsuit created difficulties in getting new emergency services commissioner Tony Sutton confirmed by legislators after Odell appointed him at

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Stateline Whalers, Pro Hockey Squad, Welcomed to Putnam

By David Propper

Danbury's loss became Brewster's gain last week when a professional hockey team announced its intention to use Brewster Ice Arena for at least the next five years, giving Putnam County a professional sports team to boast and attract visitors from the region.

Owner of the new Brewster-based team Barry Soskin, general manager Herm Sorcher, Brewster Ice Arena owners Steve Santini and Jim Hahn, and county officials were all on hand to usher in Putnam's own professional hockey squad Friday morning, officially named the Stateline Whalers of the Federal Hockey League. On Putnam's 203rd birthday, it received its first professional sports team in its recent history.

The new team is the result of the Danbury Whalers in Connecticut, now

an inactive team, unable to reach an agreement for a new lease agreement with the Danbury Ice Arena. The Brewster team will have the same colors as the old Danbury team, though a logo hasn't been decided on yet.

Santini said he received a call roughly five weeks ago from Whalers officials inquiring about using the facility for games, most of which will be on the weekend. After some back and forth, Santini said team officials were happy with what the facility offered and the fact it has 28 different recreational teams that play and practice there.

Right now, the arena where games would be held can fill just fewer than 1,000 fans. Santini said the arena is drawing up plans to look into expanding seating, ideally reaching between 1,300-1,500 seats

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DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

From left to right, Legislator William Gouldman, Legislator Joe Castellano, Stateline Whalers General Manager Herm Sorcher, Whalers owner Barry Soskin, Brewster Ice Arena owner Steve Santini, County Executive MaryEllen Odell, and Deputy Director of Putnam Tourism Frank Smith all welcomed a new pro hockey into Putnam County last week.

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Brewster Music Students Air Grievances Over Department Restructuring

By David Propper

Students and parents involved in the Brewster school district's music department voiced angst and apprehension over the way district officials plan on replacing a music instructor taking a leave of absence, during a June 9 school board meeting.

Several students, current and former, as well as a handful of parents questioned if the district is going to fully replace the orchestra instructor for the high school and middle school, Lauren Ellis, who was granted a leave of absence to pursue a Master's degree for roughly a year, with plans to return to the district after that education is complete. With the district seeking to restore cuts to the library department, the music department may be facing some reshuffling, according to Brewster school officials.

For almost an hour, Brewster school board members and administrators heard from a large contingency in the music community about why it was important for the music program to remain at the high quality it currently is.

Brewster alum, MJ Garrity, who was part of the music department, said a variety of programs shaped his high school career and has had a lasting impact on his life. He urged the board to maintain the integrity of the music program.

"It is because of those opportunities

that I am the well-rounded individual that I am today," Garrity said.

Another Brewster alum, Jessica Stein, encouraged the school board to keep music a "priority" in Brewster. She said it is as important to provide quality instruction not just at the high school, but also the middle and elementary schools.

She noted there are many positive effects from music and it can be critical to a student's success in other areas of school and life. "Music lasts a lifetime," Stein added.

"You're not focusing on us more than what's going to happen funding wise," one current student named Sydney, a junior, added. "We don't see that as fair."

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tim Conway made clear the district has struggled with position cuts--55 since 2008--because of crushing state mandates and lack of state aid. Conway, who has met with music students and teachers in recent weeks, said the district would provide "at the very least an equivalent learning experience for our music students next year."

The position to replace Ellis would be equal to 0.6 teacher, which Conway said is effectively three days a week. An instructor at CV Starr could also take on some of the string responsibility at Wells Middle School.

Conway said the district would be

seeking a candidate who is capable of teaching string instruments. Though Ellis has recommended three string teachers, Conway said those three instructors aren't the only three that can be looked at because of contracts and state laws.

Parent Peter Carey said he understands that Ellis' position was in fact accounted for in this year's budget, so he asked board members why the district is now seeking to restructure the department rather than hiring another teacher similar to Ellis' skill level who would provide the same amount of class time instruction.

"I don't see fixing something that's not really broken," he said. "You can just get one teacher to do what Ms. Ellis was doing instead moving people around."

Conway responded by saying, "Yes, Ms. Ellis' position is in the budget for next year because the board accepted her leave of absence two weeks ago and the budget was approved by the board and voted on back in April and then May by



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO
Superintendent of Schools Tim Conway speaks during a Board of Education meeting last week.

the public. But the library position, which is now going to be maintained was not in the budget so that's got to be addressed so that's what's really driven this whole thing."

"We're going to have great program next year," Conway said. "Is it going to be different, sure, because Ms. Ellis isn't going to be here, but that's out of our control."

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A: Confusion over what constitutes a sprained ankle is common. A sprain is defined as a stretched or torn ligament – the tough, fibrous tissue that connects one bone to another and supports your joints. By far the most common type of sprain is in the ankle. Ankle sprains happen when the foot twists, rolls or turns in a manner that causes the ligaments to stretch beyond their normal length. While the intensity varies, pain, bruising, swelling, and inflammation are common to all sprains.

Q: If my ankle is swollen and tender, what should I do?

A: Be sure to practice RICE immediately: Rest, Ice, Compress and Elevate. Sit or lie down, put your ankle up on some pillows, wrap it with an ace bandage, and ice it for 20 to 30 minutes several times a day.

If you can't put weight on the joint, you should see a doctor immediately. After the ankle is evaluated and other injuries such as fractures or tendon damage are ruled out, and depending on the severity of the sprain, you may be able to start rehabilitating your ankle.

Q: What can I expect from rehab?

A: With a severe sprain, I often put a boot on the patient for two weeks or so and start physical therapy to strengthen the ankle as soon as possible. One exercise patients can try is writing the alphabet in the air with their big toe. Another is standing on one foot with your eyes closed. The goal is to work up to a minute. This improves your balance and strengthens the muscles that stabilize your joint.

Following through on rehab is key. The single highest risk factor for ankle sprain is having a history of sprain. Completing an appropriate rehabilitation program and utilizing at least short-term bracing will decrease future risk of an ankle sprain.

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State Law Controls Sex Offender Registry, Putnam Committee Told

By Neal Rentz

Local governments, including counties, cannot create their own laws in New York State regulating sex offenders, a committee of the Putnam County Legislature was told on June 10.

The Protective Services Committee was addressed on the topic by Andrew Negro, the first deputy county attorney.

The committee was responding to a May 18 letter from the Concerned Residents of Boniello Drive and Hilltop Drive. As stated in the letter, a level three sex offender moved to Boniello Drive in

May. His victims were two 11-year-old girls.

“We understand there is nothing we can legally do to remove him or her from the neighborhood,” the letter stated. However, the two groups rhetorically asked in their letter, “Why is it permissible or ethically appropriate for a real estate agent to sell a home to this type of person on a block where it is obvious that many children reside?”

Negro told the committee local governments had its hands tied on potentially adding additional restrictions on sex offenders due to a recent state Court of Appeals ruling. The highest court in the state determined that the state’s Sex Offender Act of 1996 took precedence over any local law on the issue.

“Municipalities can’t legislate in this area,” Negro said.

Any changes in the 1996 law would need to be made by the state, Negro said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

The Putnam County Legislature’s Protective Services Committee met on June 10. Shown above are committee members Chair Roger Gross (center), Ginny Nacerino and William Gouldman.

Grand Opening of Empire Performance PT



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Athletes looking for a new spot to train and recover from sports injuries can find everything they need along Route 6 in Carmel, as Empire Performance Physical Therapy held its grand opening last Thursday. Owner and Mahopac native Tony Tanzi snipped the ribbon, ushering in a new business lauded by chamber of commerce members like Mahopac-Carmel Chamber CEO Mike Bucci and other local leaders. The address is 1611 Route 6 in Carmel and its number is 845-225-2000.



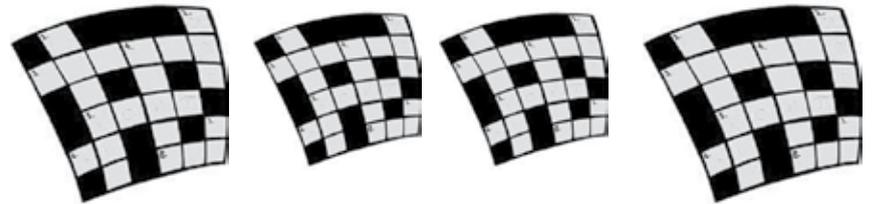
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Philipstown Board OKs Drainage Project on South Mountain Pass

By Janine Bowen

An expansion of a proposed drainage project on South Mountain Pass is causing issues for residents who felt that Philipstown officials are not listening to concerns about paving in the town.

Despite public objection, the change order to fund the additional work on South Mountain Pass was approved by a margin of 3-2. Trustee Nancy Montgomery voted against the change order stating that she was unhappy that the work might lead to paving of the road and added that even if the road remains unpaved, she feels that this amount of drainage work goes beyond what is necessary for the area. Michael Leonard, who cast the other dissenting vote, said while he believed the work would help current road conditions, the amount of contention regarding the issue is what drove his decision.

Originally, a project to install a drainage system on South Mountain Pass, which is one of many dirt roads that still exist in Philipstown, called for work along 600 feet of the road. But, a change order on Monday approved work on an additional 600-foot stretch of road. Many residents are upset about the increased drainage work because they believe that work is preparing the road to be paved while residents wish for the street to remain a dirt road.

Dozens of residents came out to Wednesday's town board workshop to voice their opinions, but Supervisor Richard Shea told them that public comment would not be permitted during the workshop, since the topic had been discussed at previous meeting last week.

"We've had hours of discussion on this and I think the board...has heard what people have to say on both sides of the issue and we're putting it to a vote tonight," said Shea

Many residents were left feeling disgruntled about the fact that they were not given a forum to voice their opinions and claiming that they had not had the opportunity to attend or speak at previous meetings either due to previous

commitments or because they were unaware that the drainage project was related to proposed paving work.

Theresa Orlandi attended the meeting with her two children, who had prepared comments urging the board not to pave South Mountain Pass, and said that she was disappointed that Shea did not take time to listen to children who attended a meeting on a school night to speak.

"I find it appalling that our elected officials refused to hear any discussion or comment on this issue tonight, especially because many new people showed up including at least ten children," said Orlandi.

Terence Zaleski, president of the Philipstown Old Road Society, was given an opportunity to address the board before they voted to approve a change order that would permit the expanded drainage work, owing to the fact that he was out of town during the previous meetings regarding South Mountain Pass.

Zaleski voiced concern about the cost involved with installing drainage along approximately 1,200 feet of the road. He noted the first phase of the project cost \$129,000 while the additional work is slated to cost \$120,000. However the capital budget presented by the town highway department in October 2014 had only allocated \$4,759 for work on South Mountain Pass, he said.

"What's the purpose of workshop meetings and a budget that's being prepared if you can't...rely on that for the next year," questioned Zaleski. "What's the purpose of a capital budget if just a few months later it can be totally ripped apart and changed around behind closed doors?"

Shea contended all of the changes made to the budget were made in a public setting even though members of the public may not have attended the meetings. He explained that the increased price tag for work on the road is made possible because of a surplus in the highway department fund and that, if paving was to ultimately occur on the road, it would be funded by CHIPS money.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Resident young, like pictured here, and old came out to voice their opinion a proposed drainage project on South Mountain Pass.

Zaleski stated even though all of the meetings were technically held in a public forum, many residents were not motivated to attend because they were not concerned about the proposed drainage project since the highway department had made a commitment in October 2014 that there would be no money available for paving in the next year. He believed town board members took advantage of the lack of public engagement to push the project along.

Zaleski also suggested that the board may not have the legal authority to approve the additional 600 feet of drainage work because the language of the contract for the original work stated that any change orders should have been made at the time the contract was signed.

"I'm afraid that there's more that's going on than the erosion of the road," said Zaleski. "I see what's happening is an erosion in this community of trust and confidence in the way the process works."

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Philipstown, Nelsonville Talk Shared Services

By Janine Bowen

The Philipstown town board has begun talks with officials in the neighboring Village of Nelsonville to consider consolidating some services.

During a Wednesday night workshop, representatives from both municipalities discussed the possibility of combining their respective courts and building departments in order to eliminate any overlap and possibly generate some tax savings for residents. Currently, between Nelsonville, Philipstown, and Cold Spring, there are

three separate court systems and building departments all operating within about a mile of each other.

One of the more difficult aspects of consolidating the building departments would be the differences in zoning laws between the two municipalities. Philipstown Supervisor, Richard Shea explained building inspectors have assisted the Nelsonville building department in the past and are familiar with village codes although officials acknowledged that keeping track of discrepancies between the two could get confusing. Ultimately, zoning issues would be resolved by the Zoning Board of Appeals in each individual municipality.

The courts would be easier to merge, said officials, because they would largely be enforcing laws that are state-wide as opposed to specific to an individual municipality. Officials agreed they would need to look into how many cases each court system handles on a regular basis and determine if perhaps the number of justices on staff could be reduced following a consolidation.

At the conclusion of the meeting, officials agreed to speak with the New York Department of State to get advice on what steps would come first in the consolidation process and whether or not there are any state incentives for mergers.



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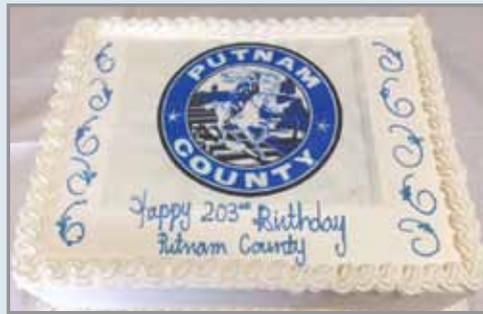
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Happy 203rd Birthday, Putnam County



Residents young and old came to the Historic Court House in Carmel on Friday, June 12 to celebrate the 203rd birthday of Putnam County.

The event which was organized by the Putnam County Historian's Office recognized people who made significant contributions to preserving local history. The Patterson Historical Society was given the Public History Award. The authors of "West Point Foundry" and "Mahopac" in the Images of America Series" were honored with Publication Awards.



Pictured are the Color Guard of Mahopac VFW Post 5491 and siblings Ellen, 10, and Roderick Cassidy, 8, of Brewster who led the Pledge of Allegiance. A cake of the 203rd birthday (left) also proved to be popular among revelers.

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MADE FOR NEW YORK.

PV High School Students Recognized for Soccer Program

By Janine Bowen

A group of Putnam Valley High School students were honored at a June 4 for their efforts in creating a soccer program for special needs students.

The MAGMAH soccer clinic was developed in 2013 by a six high school students, who are now juniors in the district. The program, which gets its name by combining the first letter of the first name of each of the six founders, was developed after the students learned about a program in Yorktown Heights called Backyard Sports Plus and met with administrators to train and develop a similar program for students in Putnam Valley.

The clinic played its first season in 2014 with nine participants, but the 2015 season, which concluded with a game on Mother's Day consisted of 25 players and 36 volunteers who met for two one-hour long sessions each Sunday for eight weeks during the spring.

"You represent everything that's really beautiful about the students here at Putnam Valley. Your compassion, your kindness, your willingness to give of yourselves in the way you do for this program is really remarkable," said school superintendent, Dr. Fran Wills upon presenting MAGMAH with the Pride in Putnam Valley award.

'You represent everything that's really beautiful about the students here at Putnam Valley. Your compassion, your kindness, your willingness to give of yourselves in the way you do for this program is really remarkable.'

*Superintendent
Fran Wills*

Wills explained she has received a lot of positive feedback from parents about the program, noting that the special needs students who participate in the program feel that the student coaches truly believe in them. Board of Education trustee, Ralph Smith read an email from a parent whose child participated in the MAGMAH clinic, praising the program for appropriately challenging participants without



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Six students were honored at a recent Putnam Valley Board of Education meeting for a soccer program they created for special needs students.

causing frustration and recounted the story of watching a student coach sit and talk with a player who walked off the field because he was having trouble participating.

"Any adult will tell you this is really a program run by the students; they do the whole thing. We are merely there as very mild helpers and chaperones," said Smith.

Since all of the founding members of the program will be graduating next year, they explained they are already training students to take over the program and ensure it continues in their absence. In addition, they asked district officials to consider developing

and implementing more programs like MAGMAH in order to meet the needs of differently abled students year round.

"It is hard to tell who is having more fun, the participants or the coaches and I think it's a toss-up," added Board of Education President, Jeanine Rufo.



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Stiebeling's Lawsuit Against County, Odell Dismissed

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the State of County in March. He is right now acting commissioner.

"I like the idea of moving on, moving forward, giving the acting commissioner permanent status," Odell said. "We have a lot of work to do right now."

Odell added, "It's a relief to know that the decision went in our favor and we'll take heed to what the judge said about legislature now clarifying their position on the county charter."

In an email, Sussman said he and Stiebeling didn't know yet whether they would appeal the ruling, as of Friday afternoon.

"The dismissal hardly upheld Adam's dismissal/termination. Indeed, it says that Adam did not hold his position because of a technicality which neither he nor the County Executive knew about," Sussman stated. "So, technically, he was not terminated; he was not legally holding his position according to the Judge. The decision makes clear that the County Executive provided no credible reason for her action and that a strong argument can be made that the legislature must confirm any termination."

While Grossman, a Democrat, sided with the county regarding the lawsuit, he had no problem admonishing county

officials including Odell and legislators for how the last few months played out. Grossman wrote Odell "should not view this determination as a victory."

"Her actions herein had nothing to do with the absence of the oath, and certainly, (Stiebeling) was allowed to act as commissioner for an extended period of time with questionable authority while a technical vacancy existed, at least until Odell decided otherwise," Grossman wrote.

Grossman, a past county legislator, also recommended the legislature "as a policy-making body," discuss making revisions to the County Charter to

"address the separation of power issues, as the issue raised by (Stiebeling) may recur and the court may be compelled, in the future, to address the merits that cannot be reached at this time."

Two legislators that voiced criticism when Stiebeling lost his position believe another look must be given to the charter going forward.

Legislator Roger Gross said, "I think there has to be a review of the charter in this area."

Legislator Dini LoBue said in an email, "It is obvious that Judge Grossman has pointed out that there is a defect in the Charter which needs to be addressed."

Stateline Whalers, Pro Hockey Squad, Welcomed to Putnam

continued from page 1

after the end of the first year. The contract is set to last 5-6 years, Santini said.

"We have a tremendous fan base built in for them, plus what they had over in Danbury," Santini said. "So it's going to be a good situation for everyone."

Soskin, the owner who is an Illinois-based businessman, emphasized the affordability of the games. He said whatever Putnam residents pay for a movie ticket, is what they would pay for a ticket to a game. The league is one that focuses on family affordability entertainment, "where you don't have to spend \$100 a ticket to be able to sit down, where you don't have to spend \$12 a drink to enjoy a beverage of your choice."

Soskin said much of the legwork in finding a new place after Danbury was done by Sorcher, the general manager. Soskin stressed he wanted to ensure another location was found before the start of next year's season.

The primary focus, Soskin said, is now filling up the roughly thousand seats available and finding businesses

to advertise around the arena. Soskin expressed confidence the team could "make it" financially in the new facility.

"It's much more fun when you're making money or breaking even than when you're not," Soskin said. "And when you're doing OK off the ice, the on-ice product is that much better."

County Executive MaryEllen Odell welcomed the Whalers during a press conference, excited about the tourism and other economic opportunities the most high profile team in the county could bring. Odell said the tourism office is already working with team officials in helping promote the move through the I Love NY program.

Odell said it'd be nice to keep sales tax dollars within the county, rather than families going elsewhere for recreational fun.

"This helps us expand now into opportunities outside of Putnam County," Odell said. "We'd like to get some Connecticut folks over here for a change instead watching Putnam County tax dollars always leaving here."



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Brewster Ice Arena owners Steve Santini (left) and Jim Hahn.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Stateline Whalers general manager Herm Sorcher speaks during a press conference.

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Sclafani Oil and Propane Mahopac

By David Propper

On roadways all throughout Putnam County, the sight of Sclafani Oil and Propane trucks is a familiar one, even dating back to when oil prices were dramatically cheaper.

Covering a 42-mile radius, Sclafani, owned and operated by Maureen and Jerry Sclafani, offers its services to northern Westchester County, all of Putnam County, and southern Dutchess County, delivering pure, clean, and high quality heating oil, quality biofuel, propane, gasoline and diesel. Staffers are also on 24-hour call, which can be incredibly valuable when a house is having heating issues in the dead of winter or in need of air conditioning repairs in the heat of summer.

The family on Jerry's side started with the gas station business in 1940s in Lake Carmel, with the heating oil aspect starting in that Lake Carmel garage years later in 1972. Eventually, the company needed more space and that's when Sclafani was founded at its current location in Mahopac in 1987.

Maureen said the company continues to evolve, keeping up on industry's standards. The company offers biofuel, which is cleaner than natural gas and



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

The headquarters for Sclafani Oil and Propane located in Mahopac across from Carmel town hall.

every worker within the company has gone to school to learn how to handle a high-efficiency furnace.

"As much as people think oil is old," Maureen said. "There's a lot that's new."

Maureen began her career working as a salesperson for Union Carbide Corporation and worked in its data center for countless years. Though

she enjoyed her job, once her son was born, she wanted to do something else that would be better suited to raising children.

She originally worked in Tarrytown for a few years and helped her husband with the books at night, but she ultimately decided to focus on the family business full-time. Maureen calls it a 12-hour day

in the winter and a 9-hour job in the summer.

Being on 24-hour call, service workers occasionally fall into odd and bizarre situations. The craziest, Maureen can recall, happened 10-15 years ago when a homeowner with no heat needed repairs done in the basement; the only problem is there was a pet monkey that the homeowner had living in the basement.

Maureen ended up telling her worker he didn't have to do the repairs in the basement with the monkey after the homeowner refused to remove the "pet" from that spot.

Whether oil prices increase or decrease, Sclafani always makes it a point to charge a fair price, do right by its customers and provide a high quality service. While Maureen has heard how other companies can make homeowners--many desperate for heat or cool air--wait a few days to respond to a call, Sclafani tries to respond within a few hours. She added, "It's a crisis, you have to respond to somebody's crisis."

"We've been in Putnam since we were born," Maureen said. "So for us it's a personal thing."

Customers can reach Sclafani Oil and Propane at 845-628-1330.

After Heroic Actions, Brewster Dog Earns Widespread Attention

continued from page 1

to Danbury Hospital and been staying there as she recovers.

"The dog took a lot of the blow," Del Gardo said in that AP report. "And he did not want to leave her side. He stood right with her. He was there to save her."

Figo is currently at Middlebranch Veterinary bandaged and recovering.



COURTESY OF MIDDLEBRANCH VET

Figo receives cards from school children in New Jersey Veterinary for Figo.

Veterinarian LouAnn Pfeifer, the owner of Middlebranch, said it would take 4-6 weeks for the fracture to heal and couple weeks for the wounds to also heal. Because Figo has been a "great patient," he hasn't had to wear the cone of shame that is meant to prevent dogs from biting their bandages off.

When Figo was rushed into the veterinary's office, Pfeifer noted despite having a five-inch gash on his leg, he was still stoic and just laying there.

"Have we had dogs unfortunately hit by cars, yes we have," Pfeifer said. "But Figo went above and beyond for his owner."

Because Figo is a seeing-eye dog, The Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind where he comes from on Long Island, will evaluate him to see if the dog is still capable of performing his duties for Stone, 62, once she gets out of the hospital.

Pfeifer has been in touch with Stone to let her know how Figo's condition is and to find out what some of Figo's "key words" are so the eight-year-old dog isn't too confused by the way the veterinarians are treating him.

In an interview with multiple news organization, Stone has said she believes Figo "deserves a medal" for his heroism.

Though she can't reveal who just yet, Pfeifer mentioned a person has come



COURTESY OF MIDDLEBRANCH VET

Media coverage for the golden retriever has reached almost every end of the nation and even internationally.

forward to cover all the medical costs for Figo. The foundation where Figo is from also said if bills needed to be covered, they would help.

When asked if she thought the heroic actions of Figo would attract worldwide attention when he first came in a week ago, Pfeifer said she had "no clue."

"I had no clue whatsoever. I figured the local press would follow this," Pfeifer said. "But we had contact from Australian TV stations, there's someone from Britain that now wants pictures so we are simply Figo's press service at this point, the story really is about him."



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Gifts that have been sent to Middlebranch Veterinary for Figo.

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Adam Stone
astone@theexaminernews.com
Publisher

Laura Markowski
lmarkowski@theexaminernews.com
Associate Publisher

Peter Stone
pstone@theexaminernews.com
Chief Financial Officer

David Propper
dpropper@theexaminernews.com
Editor-in-Chief

Neal Rentz
nrentz@theexaminernews.com
Reporter

Janine Bowen
jbowen@theexaminernews.com
Reporter

Ray Gallagher
rgallagher@theexaminernews.com
Sports Editor

Nikki Gallagher
nikki@theexaminernews.com
Community Calendar Editor

Bill Primavera
bprimavera@theexaminernews.com
Real Estate Editor

Dean Pacchiana
dpacchiana@theexaminernews.com
Page Designer

Dina Spalvieri
dspalvieri@theexaminernews.com
Ad Designer

Jeff Ohlbaum
johlbaum@theexaminernews.com
Senior Account Executive

Corinne Stanton
cstanton@theexaminernews.com
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Obituaries

Baptist J. Bianco

Baptist J. Bianco, age 96, of Brewster, formerly White Plains, and Dover Plains, died Tuesday June 9, in Brewster. He was born on July 18, 1918 in Torrington, CT.

Baptist was retired from Harrison School District and Town of Dover Transfer Station. He was a former post commander of American Legion in Wingdale, NY, a veteran of the US Army Air corps in WWII, a member of the Golden Chords-man chapter of SPBSQA and a fourth degree Knight. He was predeceased by a daughter Pamela Scarborough. Survived by his wife of 72 years Victoria Bianco, son Joseph Bianco, daughters Christine Bowman and Aurora Heanue, 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

David Lewis

David Lewis, of Holmes, formerly of Brewster, died June 10, at Putnam Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. He was 72 years old. David was born on October 13, 1942 in New York City, NY, son to the late Samuel David and Rose (Feldstone) Lewis. Mr. Lewis was a very smart man, he enjoyed physics and chemistry. Music was also very important in his life. David is survived by his brother, Dr. Richard Lewis and his wife of Sarasota, FL, his 4 nephews; Brian, Aaron, Benjamin and Daniel, his cousin Martin Lewis and his wife Diane Brandt.

Thomas Enrico Gentile

After a long illness Thomas Enrico Gentile, age 83, died in his home in Holmes, on June 11. Born February

19th, 1932 in the Bronx, to Romeo and Lena Gentile. Thomas proudly served his country in the Navy. On, April 30th, 1955 he married the love of his life, his "main squeeze" Teresa DeSimone. Along with their family, they recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. He was born and raised in the Bronx and worked as a stationary engineer for City of New York Department of Sanitation until retiring in 1987. He also worked at Interfaith Medical Center as a stationary engineer. Since 1986 he enjoyed going to his home in Coconut Creek, Florida for the winter. He enjoyed bowling, playing cards, swimming and shuffleboard with his friends. Thomas was a member of St. Vincent Church in Margate and in New York he attended St James. Thomas will be especially remembered for his love for his family and his dedication to his wife, children and grandchildren. He was a present dad and even more present grandfather. As a grandfather he dedicated his time to doing everything he could for his grandchildren, including driving them to activities and to school, attending every important event and milestone. Survivors include his wife Teresa "Tina" Gentile, his children Gloria Santonocito, Richard Gentile and his wife Joy Gentile, Thomas Gentile and his wife Luciana Gentile, Robert Gentile and Liz, and Tina Marie Chillo and her husband Michael Chillo. He is survived by his grandchildren DebraAnn, Michelle, Michael, Angela, Teresa, Marco, Joseph, Thomas, Christopher, Anthony, Gianna, Thomas, Robert, and by his great-grandchildren Nicole, Mathew, Eryka, PJ., Frankie, Vincent, Nicolina and Lilliana. He will also be missed by his brothers Raymond and Ralph Gentile. Thomas was preceded in death by his mother and father.

Dorothy P. Yessian

Dorothy P. Yessian, of Brewster, died Friday June 12, at Danbury Hospital with her family by her side. She was 80 years old. Dorothy was born November 28, 1934 in Dobbs Ferry, NY to John and Helene (Gerken) Petersen. She and her parents moved to Brewster in 1942 where her two brothers were later born. She graduated from Brewster High School (now the Garden Street School) in 1952. She also attended one semester of Teacher's college at SUNY New Paltz before going to work as a dental assistant/office manager for Dr. Lawrence S. Greenfield in Brewster for 30 years. After "retiring" from the dentist's office, she worked part-time as a teacher's aide in the Brewster schools for almost 10 years which she loved since she always wanted to be in the teaching profession. She met the love of

her life, James J. Yessian from Mahopac, on stage at the Brewster Theater Group. Besides his good looks, he won her over with his ability to always make her laugh. They were married on October 26, 1957 at St. John the Evangelist in Mahopac and settled in Brewster where they raised their family. In addition to being a founding member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Brewster, she was also on the Church Council, taught Sunday school, was in the Couples Club, danced in the Schuhklutzers German Dancers for the Oktoberfests, sang in the Senior Choir and was a member of Trinity Campers, as well as the Tappan Z Campers. She was also an avid reader. Those who knew Dorothy knew she put others' needs first; her heart was always open and she was a very forgiving person. She was Mom to everyone, and basically raised her youngest brother Roger. A strong, organized, detailed-oriented person, you could always count on her for strength and encouragement or words of wisdom to help you get through your day. She is survived by her husband Jimmy, daughters Laurie (and Peter) Bell, Lynne (and John) Heuschkel of Brewster; grandsons Connor and Gavin Heuschkel; granddaughter Nicole (and Anthony) Kosminsky of Sussex, NJ; great grandsons Cole and Brayden Kosminsky; brothers John (and Linda) Petersen of Virginia Beach, VA, and Roger (and Lynne) Petersen of Peoria, AZ. She is predeceased by her granddaughter Danielle Bell. A funeral service will be held on Thursday June 18, at 11am at Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster. Interment will be private. Friends may call at the Beecher Funeral Home, 1 Putnam Avenue, Brewster, on Wednesday June 17, from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. www.Beecherfuneralhome.com. Donations in celebration of Dorothy's life may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, 2103 Route 6, Brewster, NY, 10509 -OR- to Friends of Karen, 118 Titicus Road, North Salem, NY 10560.

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor.

Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to Editor David Propper at dpropper@theexaminernews.com.

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
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30	31			32				33	34	35
36				37				38		
39				40				41		

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15

Across

- 1 Frequently, in rhyme
- 4 Cassowary relation
- 7 Growing area
- 10 Route
- 11 Help cry
- 12 Grecian art object
- 13 Belonging to Costello's partner or Shrub Oak frozen yogurt
- 15 Expanse
- 16 Protect the border, in a way
- 18 Wasted
- 21 Grammatical term
- 24 Cliffside dwelling
- 25 Salmon P. or Westchester/Putnam bank
- 26 Powder
- 27 Forested
- 28 Tear into
- 30 Top score, often
- 32 Basswoods
- 36 Depressed
- 37 Forum greeting
- 38 Unagi, at a sushi bar
- 39 Maven
- 40 Tie the knot
- 41 E or G, e.g.

Down

- 1 Future chicks
- 2 White lie
- 3 Bill
- 4 What you will
- 5 Watchword

- 6 Pre-1991 superpower
- 7 Lots of kids probably
- 8 Afore
- 9 Paternity identifier
- 14 Specs related
- 17 Halted, for now
- 18 Be up
- 19 Grazing ground
- 20 Family vacation city
- 22 Not waste
- 23 Actor Beatty
- 25 Made, as money
- 27 Let go
- 29 Popular side
- 30 Teaspoon, abbr.
- 31 Canal site
- 33 Mouse spotter's cry
- 34 Born
- 35 ____ as a fox



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'Feng Shui'ed' Anew, Not Without Some Trepidation

After a year of great upheaval in my personal and professional domains, having moved to a new residence and expanded space in my office building, I was feeling off kilter. I was a little uncomfortable in my own skin, not sleeping well and working in a tangle of misplaced folders, temporary filing boxes and a jumble of crossed wires.

Six months ago, I moved from my large historic property that for over 40 years had housed my public relations business and domicile to make way for an ever-expanding enterprise after my wife had declared "Enough! I've lived 'above the store' my entire married life and now I'm living inside the store!"

That's when we purchased a new residence at Trump Park in Shrub Oak, which we've been decorating madly, while at our historic property we converted our former living quarters into new offices.

The transition has involved a massive displacement of furnishings and fixtures and the addition of new office equipment to accommodate a doubling of staff, all of which had left me in a state of anxiety.

Perhaps it was not totally accidental that I received a call from the fabulous



By Bill Primavera

Deanna Trust, feng shui consultant extraordinaire, about whom I had done a column a while back. The universe has responded to my need to be "feng shui'ed" at home and at the office to make sure that I hadn't boggled my environments with all this moving.

"Come visit me fast, at both places," I implored. "I need to get organized for a feeling of calm."

Within the month she arrived and I had my video production crew on hand to record the process. There was one terrible snag, which I hadn't anticipated: my wife Margaret.

I should explain that a happy marriage of nearly a half-century can be built on the attraction of opposites, and my wife doesn't go for this kind of stuff. When Trust mentioned on the phone the night before that she would be bringing many crystals to "paste to the ceiling" of our new home to energize it, I was able to say with full confidence that, knowing my wife, that wasn't going to happen. We agreed that we could work around this issue and I promised that at my office she could plaster the entire ceiling with crystals, like stalactites in a cave, if she

liked.

At home, as soon as Trust entered the front door, she told me that the residence was "stable, a happy place, well-designed for good fortune and happiness."

While Donald Trump didn't actually build the building -- that honor goes to Louis Cappelli -- he did attach his name to it, and since he has a feng shui consultant for every one of his projects, I'm sure he wouldn't have allowed that unless he were fully confident that the place represented him well.

Trust cleansed and blessed my home quickly, feeling that I had pretty much followed pointers she had given me from a consultation a year earlier. I had made some errors in my bedroom with too much "water" representation in my seascape paintings -- six of them -- which have to be replaced in favor of "action" representation. There were other minor tweaks, like having plants in two corners to stimulate good fortune and growth, but nothing that Margaret would consider too weird.

It was then on to the office building where I admitted unabashedly that I want to soar with success. After three hours I was exhausted. There was the creation of an altar, then the most exacting interpretation of each room from our reception area, to my manager's office, other offices, a conference room, my office and the kitchen. There was rearrangement of wall art, wall color suggestions, and a biggie, my office chair, which was not commanding enough it seems. It was suggested that I need a chair that comes up high enough to cover the back of my head. Wouldn't you know, I had just bought an expensive one that didn't have that feature.



Feng shui consultant Deanna Trust and Home Guru Bill Primavera in his home office.

There were also loads of crystals to be added in every room, some hanging directly from the ceiling -- one directly at the entrance -- others in corners and some from chandeliers. Certainly prospective clients may wonder about that and ask whether I really believe in it all. I guess I'm like those who say they decide to live a good life not knowing whether there's a heaven or hell, but just in case...

If you feel you want to improve your chances at happiness, good fortune and better health, call Deanna Trust at 973-366-3570 or visit www.trustfengshui.com.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is: www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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Kurt Rhoads in The Two Gentlemen of Verona, 2014. Photo: William Marsh

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Presenting The Unique Wine Palate of Americans



By Nick Antonaccio

Americans drink more wine than any other nation. And most of the wine we consume is produced in the United States.

So what wines do we prefer? Is there a national preference for certain styles of wines over others? Do we tend to consume wines produced from a select few grapes or are our palates more expansive? Is there such a thing as a national palate, whereby Americans have honed a common preference for wine tastes, aromas and bouquets?

This week I'll explore the American palate. From the early days of the democracy, a preference for sweeter styles of wines prevailed. Over the ensuing centuries, we experimented with various styles of wines. But surprisingly, our national taste for wine has changed little since the Founding Fathers tipped Madeira and Cabernet Sauvignon.

But for the 13-year respite when Prohibition put a halt to legal alcohol consumption, Americans appetite for alcohol has grown over the centuries, yet our preferences have not

changed significantly. Today, Americans still prefer fruit-forward wines with mild tannins and acidity. Most Americans who prefer this style of wine don't think of these wines as having a sweet profile. Yet comparatively speaking, Europeans have been drinking far dryer and more sophisticated wines over a much longer period of time.

How is the term palate defined for the intent of this week's column? According to the Oxford Dictionary, it is "a person's appreciation of taste and flavor, especially when sophisticated and discriminating." Certainly, each of us has preferences for a particular grape variety and style of wine. Typically, one's palate is honed over a number of years and eventually is able to discern nuances beyond taste and flavor.

But can there be a national consensus palate? Apparently so.

The Americans' national palate has come to dominate the world wine market. As the largest consuming nation, winemakers across the globe clamor to craft their wines to satisfy the palates and wallets of the American market.

What are Americans winemakers producing to satisfy the American populace? The top five

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

grapes grown in Northern California, which accounts for a dominant share of American wine production, are Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Syrah. Do you recognize your drinking preferences in this list?

Across the globe, winemakers are shifting their production to these same grape varieties, oftentimes in direct conflict with ages-old vineyard and winery plantings and processes. For example, 50 years ago very few of the top five grapes were grown in Italy. That was before Italian winemakers set their sights on the American consumer. Not only are they now dedicating increased acreage to these varieties, but in a number of instances they have changed the style of wine being produced to meet the profile of the American palate. This has created a debate in wine circles that the Italians (and certain Spanish and French winemakers) have sold out to the Americans and abandoned their centuries-old traditions.

Another reason that Americans consume more wine than any other nation is our penchant for stand-alone wine consumption. In Western Europe, wine is rarely consumed away from the dining table. In the United States, we

enjoy a glass of wine as a social lubricant as much as we do as an accompaniment to a meal. The American traditions of the after work glass of wine, group cocktail parties and wine bars are unique amongst wine-consuming nations.

Here's the rub. Over the centuries, Americans' palates have been honed to enjoy fruit-forward, balanced wines with low tannins and acidity. These wines tend to be in-your-face fruit bombs that lack subtlety and complexity. When we encounter other styles of wines from around the world, our palates may not be able to discern the nuances and finer characteristics of those wines.

Have American palates been desensitized to enjoy more sophisticated wines? I think not. In spite of efforts from profit-motivated winemakers, and wine critics who prefer big, fruity wines, alternative wines are being produced and should be sought out. Through continuous experimentation, a discerning palate can be developed.

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



Crossword Answers

1	O	2	F	3	T		4	E	5	M	6	U		7	B	8	E	9	D
10	V	I	A				11	S	O	S				12	U	R	N		
13	A	B	B	14	O	T	T	S						15	S	E	A		
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18	B	19	L	20	O	T	T	O		21	N	O	22	U	23	N			
24	A	E	R	I	E				25	C	H	A	S	E					
26	T	A	L	C			27	W	O	O	D	E	D						
			28	A	S	29	S	A	I	L									
30	T	31	E	N			32	L	I	N	D	33	E	34	N	35	S		
36	S	A	D				37	A	V	E			38	E	E	L			
39	P	R	O				40	W	E	D			41	K	E	Y			

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Valley Restaurant at The Garrison Unveils Summer Menu

Valley Restaurant at The Garrison has unveiled its summer menu with more casual dining options and fresh seasonal offerings, including a raw bar, charcuterie and cheese selections, and daily house-made pasta.

The summer menu combines offerings from its World's End Bar into one expanded menu designed to appeal to a broader range of patrons with differing tastes for all occasions.

Valley's contemporary fine dining menu of inspired American cuisine continues to focus on fresh seasonal ingredients that are locally sourced and vegetables and herbs grown in its own gardens, Garrison Farm.

Patrons can choose to sit in the relaxed

elegant spaces in the restaurant, bar area or on the deck and enjoy the stunning Hudson River views.

"The menu has already received a very positive response from our local regular patrons as well as visitors to the area. It appeals to diners' interest in more casual dining and the ability to 'graze' and try different types of cuisine in smaller plate sizes and at a variety of price points," said Chip Allemann, General Manager of The Garrison.

The menu changes weekly. Current items include such choices as:

- Raw Bar – with East Coast Oysters, Long Island Clams, Jonah Crab Claws, shrimp cocktail, Uni Toast, half Maine Lobster

- Charcuterie - Prosciutto di Parma, Italy; house-made pork sausage; Jacuterie Chorizo, Duck Salami and Black Truffle Salami

- Local Cheese Board – select two or four cheeses such as Blackwax from Adirondack, NY; Kunik Goat, Warrensburg, NY; Berkshire Blue, Berkshire, Mass.; Chaseholm Red Beard, Pine Plains, NY; and Gouda, Bloomville, NY

- Daily House-made Pasta - Squid Ink Fettuccine and Pappardelle

Also are more small plate options from Maine Lobster Roll or Sliders, Maryland Crab Cakes and Rock Shrimp Tacos to Uni Deviled Egg, Shishito Peppers and flatbread with English peas as well as a range of appetizers. Main entrees

include traditional poultry, beef, fish and seafood offerings with sides/vegetable choices, along with more casual fare like the Valley Wagyu Beef Burger.

Meals are expertly prepared by Executive Chef Vincent MocarSKI and his culinary-trained staff.

The Garrison is a river-view resort open year-round, offering highly acclaimed dining at its signature Valley restaurant, award-winning banquet facilities, overnight lodging, public 18-hole golf course, and other amenities amidst the majestic Hudson Highlands.

The Garrison is located at 2015 US 9, Garrison. More information is available online at www.TheGarrison.com, or by calling 845-424-3604. Reservations can be made through x39.

Sweet Summer Series at The Garrison Gets Even More Satisfying

Valley restaurant at The Garrison is expanding its popular Sweet Summer Series featuring free live musical entertainment, weekly drink specials, and prizes through new partnerships with retailer Old Souls of Cold Spring and three local craft breweries.

The event will run Thursday evenings from July 9 through Aug. 20, rain or shine, and feature local music performers on the deck overlooking the Hudson. Live music will be performed from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and the kitchen will be open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The summer menu – including raw bar, charcuterie and cheese selections, daily house-made pasta and small plate options for casual dining – will be featured with market specials. Specials on featured craft beers, cocktails and summer wine also will be offered.

Weekly door prizes include \$50 gift certificates from Old Souls of Cold Spring, as well as a craft beer souvenir bucket, which includes a t-shirt, hat and other merchandise from the participating breweries -- Sloop Brewing, Half Full Brewery and Bronx Brewery. The grand prize is two Yankee Tickets with a VIP Tour and Tasting to the Bronx Brewery and more, which will be awarded after the final week's big summer send-off party.

The lineup is:

July 9 - Geoff Hartwell, rock, pop-trio with Petey Hop

July 16 - Vinnie Ferrone, classic/contemporary rock and pop duo with Petey Hop

July 23 - Petey Hop and Gary King, Blues Trio

July 30 - Al Bazaz, reggae-trio with Petey Hop and bassist

Aug. 6 - Geoff Hartwell, Irish and country-trio with Petey Hop and bassist

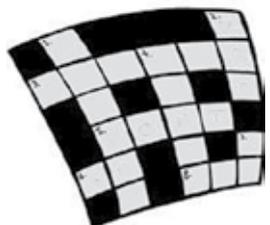
Aug. 13 - Fred Gillen, folk-duo with Petey Hop

Aug. 20 - Boogie Boys with Chris V.

Featured musician for the Sweet Summer Series, Hop has been a working musician for 20 years, playing over 5,000 nights of music. A huge appreciation for all styles of music has given him a large repertoire of music to draw on for his cover and original music. A guitar playing, singing, songwriter, the "triple threat," he is equally at home on acoustic or electric. Hop's latest recording "The Levee," charted very well on The Roots Report; #1-Interchart, #3-Blues, #30-Top 100 Blues of 2012. This series is an ideal vehicle for Hop to show his versatility both as a leader and sideman, and to play some great music with friends.

Old Souls of Cold Spring and breweries Sloop Brewing, Half Full Brewery and Bronx Brewery are event sponsors.

The Garrison is located at 2015 US 9, Garrison. More information is available online at www.TheGarrison.com, or by calling 845-424-3604. Reservations can be made through x39.

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Carmel High School Presents Top 43 Students



Carmel High School Principal Louis Riolo is pleased to present the top 43 students in the class of 2015 and the colleges and universities that they will attend:

First	Last	College
Tyler	Alfonzetti	North Carolina State University
Justin	Ali	Wesleyan University
Hannah	Aull	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Gabrielle	Avellaneda	Boston University
Gabrielle	Bohrman	Ballet Academy East
Bridgette	Caraceni	Providence College
Olivia	Caturano	University Of Delaware
Bethany	DiMassimo	SUNY Binghamton
Doliah	Francis	SUNY Purchase
Chelsea	Friedman	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Angela	Giron	College of St. Rose
Kerry Ann	Glendon	University of North Carolina
Christina	Gregis	SUNY Binghamton
Sabrina	Gregorowicz	SUNY Purchase
Emily	Hitscher	SUNY Stony Brook
Eliza	Imburgia	SUNY Binghamton
Patrick	Insinger	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Megan	Lanzotti	Belmont University
Efosi	Litombe	New York University
Rose	Loprinzo	New York University
Brittany	Macri	University of Alabama
Melissa	Martin	Penn State University
Megan	Martucci	Quinnipiac University
Jessica	Matessino	Penn State University
Maggie	McDonnell	Colgate University
Matthew	McGuinness	Holy Cross College
Aaliyah	Meacham	University of Pennsylvania
Laura	Medina	University of Pennsylvania
Nicole	Monahan	SUNY Cortland
Victoria	Nolletti	Rochester Institute of Technology
Mannion	O'Connor	Rensselaer Institute of Technology
Margaret	O'Shaughnessy	School of Visual Arts
Elizabeth	Patino	Trinity College
Cayley	Plotkin	Pace University
Lauren	Reilly	Pace University
Rebecca	Ribeiro	Manhattanville College
Ann	Ruvolo	Mt. St. Mary College
Kelly	Ryder	Duke University
Kasey	Sadowski	SUNY Fredonia
Tara	Severance	SUNY New Paltz
Claudine	Tahmin	Northeastern University
Quiahna	Watts	Fordham University

Meet Authors Hickey and Richards at Arts on the Lake

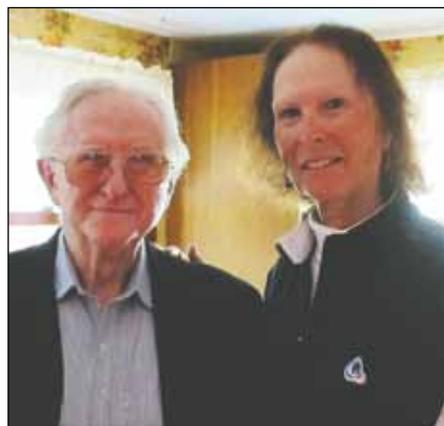
Journalist Neil Hickey and Dr. Renée Richards, both Kent residents, will have a "Conversation on the Occasion of their Recent Books" at Arts on the Lake, Saturday, June 27, at 8 pm.

In his long career as a premier journalist Neil Hickey has interviewed five U. S. Presidents, spent a day with Bob Dylan, traveled Europe with Henry Kissinger and walked through a mine-field in the war to liberate Kuwait. He was the NY bureau chief of TV Guide, when it was the nation's best-selling magazine, and is a former editor of the Columbia Journalism Review.

Dr. Richards' life as the first athlete to play successfully in professional sports as a transsexual and then to coach Martina Navratilova to titles in all four grand slam tennis championships has come back in the news recently as a result of Caitlyn Jenner. Although as a noted surgeon she has written a textbook on eye muscle surgery, Dr. Richards is better known for two autobiographies, "Second Serve" and "No Way Renée."

"As long-time Kent residents and supporters of Arts on the Lake, we felt this would be a good time to get to know our famous neighbors better," said James Shearwood, Director of Theatrical Programming at AotL.

Hickey brought out "Adventures in the Scribblers Trade" earlier this year and Dr. Richards brought out "Spy Night & Other Memories" late last year. "Spy Night" chronicles a life apart from her notoriety,



Kent residents Neil Hickey, left, and Dr. Renée Richards will discuss their new books at Arts on the Lake on Saturday, June 27 at 8 p.m.

starting with a German spy suddenly appearing at summer camp during WWII.

As Hickey reports in "Scribblers Trade," they met as neighbors in Kent and have played tennis together for 20 years.

Following the "Conversation," both will be available for questions and book signings.

As a special event presented by the members of Arts on the Lake, the Hickey-Richards evening is open to the entire community. Reservations to rsvp@artsonthelake.org or (845) 228-2685 are encouraged. There will be no charge to attend.

Arts on the Lake is located in the Lake Carmel Arts Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes.

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Muniz Leads Carmel Track Runners at Section 1 State Qualifiers

The Carmel track team recently competed at two meets, the Section 1 State Qualifiers and the Fast Time Relays. The Fast Time Relays was the last meet of the season for the team except for Benito Muniz who qualified for the State Championships and the Championship Mile at the New Balance National Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Angela Castronuovo who qualified for the Freshman Mile at the New Balance National Championships.

Two boys and two girls ran at the Section 1 State Qualifiers. Muniz in the 1600 Meters, Sawyer Maher in the 3200 Meters, Castronuovo in the 1500 Meters and the 3000 Meters, and Andrea Cortina in the 1500 Meters.

For the boys, Muniz won the 1600 Meters in 4:09:30, qualifying for the New York State Championships in Albany with the fastest time in New York State this season, and fast enough to qualify for the Championship Mile at the New Balance National Championships. Maher was 4th in the 3200 Meters in 9:38:59(under the 9:40:00 Milesplit US Second Team Standard).

For the girls, Castronuovo was 7th in the 3000 Meters in 10:55:58 and 11th



in the 1500 Meters in 4:59:51(under the 5:00:00 Milesplit US Second Team Standard). Cortina was 13th in the 1500 Meters in a season's best 5:03:90.

Because the Javelin is not contested at the New York State Championships, the Section 1 Javelin Fest is held. For the boys, Josh Beauchesne was 2nd with a throw of 143 Feet 2 Inches. For the girls, both Kelly Ryder and Eileen Malinowski

made the Final 8.

The Fast Time Relays are held under the lights in Warwick and brings together most of the best relay teams in the tri-city area for a last chance to get great times. At least 50 schools were at the Relay Carnival. As each school is allowed two relay teams per event, Carmel, who had their biggest squad in years, was able to send many runners to Warwick.

Top performances were: Boys A 4 by 100 Meter Team of Moses Garcia, Ryan Hoo, Mike Marsich, and Luke Wright 18th in a season's best time of 48:60; Boys A 4 by 800 Meter Team of Jack Bohrman, Sawyer Maher, Benito Muniz, and Brandon Villegas 20th in a season's best time of 8:15; and Girls A 4 by 800 Meter Team of Jillian Aiello, Angela Castronuovo, Andrea Cortina, and Clare McNerney 21st in 10:06.

Also competing were: Boys B4 by 100 Meter Team of Liam Carmody, Guy Cipriano, Joe Nobile, and Brandon Villegas; Boys A4 by 400 Meter Team of Jack Bohrman, Moses Garcia, Ryan Hoo, and Benito Muniz; Boys B4 by 800 Meter Team of Jacob Aiello, Jose Arevalo, Dylan Blake, and Vincent Castronuovo; Girls A4 by 100 Meter Team of Nicole Collabolleta, Mia Karas, April Mamarella, and Skyler Opramolla; Girls A4 by 400 Meter Team of Meredith Jennings, Mia Karas, Kelly Ryder, and Kristin Stec; Girls B4 by 400 Meter Team of Jessica Kozma, Madeline McDermott, Lauren Murphy, and Julia Pasquale; and Girls B4 by 800 Meter Team of Sarah Cassidy, Katerina D'Agnese, Ava Rinaldi, and Kelly Ryder.

Brewster Farmer's Market Underway

Going strong for 20 years, the Brewster Farmer's Market got started last weekend, drawing hundreds of interested residents from across the county. After being indoors for the winter, a sure sign of summer was the village abuzz with fresh food and plants abound. Photos taken by Coalition for a Better Brewster and Farmer's Market president Jack Gress, CBB member Erin Meagher, and village trustee Teresa Stockburger.



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Happenings

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Nikki Gallagher at nikki@theexaminernews.com

Register Now:

Saturday, June 27

Free Summer Concert: Oldies night, A cappella & 50s, 60s music. Leonard Wagner Memorial Town Park. 156 Oscawana Lake Road Putnam Valley. FMI: pvpr.com

Summer Theater Group: To find out more about their 6 one-week summer sessions, their summer main stage musical and their upcoming Fall season, contact Spotlight Arts at 845-444-ARTS, spotlightartsinc@gmail.com or www.SpotlightArtsInc.com.

Putnam County Office for Senior Resources Computer Learning Center for Seniors will hold registration on Thursday, July 2, at the William Koehler Senior Center, 180 Route 6 in Mahopac and the Putnam Valley Senior Center, 117 Town Park Lane, Putnam Valley. Registration hours at both sites will be from 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Anyone 55 or older can register for a variety of computer classes from basic to advanced, to using an iPad, to Digital Photography. To view the available classes visit us at www.putnamrsvp.com/clc. Register in person or call Judy Kolt at (845) 277-5422 or email her at jak4dogs@verizon.net. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please call.

The Ty Louis Campbell Foundation will host its 3rd annual Muddy Puddles "Mess Fest" on Saturday, August 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Camp Kiwi Day Camp (825 Union Valley Rd, Carmel, NY). The "Mess Fest" is an outdoor event featuring food, music, games, and, of course, plenty of mud. This event is a celebration of kids being kids and honoring children with cancer. All proceeds will directly fund childhood cancer research. Tickets are \$40 for children ages 3-13 and \$30 for adults. For more information, please visit: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-muddy-puddles-mess-fest-2015-tickets-16667428728?aff=erelexpsim>

The Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH) announced that online registration for the Second Annual "Run 4 Your Life" event is now open. Building on last year's success with over 300 participants, this year's event will take place on Sunday, September 27. The first 175 adult runners or walkers to register online are guaranteed to receive a free performance race t-shirt, a one-month membership to NY Sports Club and commemorative race glass.

Run 4 Your Life is actually three events of various distances, starting at 10 a.m. with a 5 kilometer (3.1 miles) race, followed by a one-mile walk and a Kids' half-mile fun run. All events will start and finish by the PCDOH at One Geneva Road in Brewster. Online registration can be accessed through the health department webpage at www.PutnamCountyNY.gov/health

Ongoing:

Homework Help - Sharper Skills at Kent Library through June 17: The Kent

Public Library will continue to offer it's Sharper Skills - Homework Help program through Wednesday, June 17. A tutor is available in the local history/genealogy room of the library every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Sharper Skills is an extra help program for students levels K-12 and individuals seeking secondary completion according to the new NY standards. No appointment necessary! Program offers; homework help, assistance with projects, study guidance, etc.

Marge's Knitting Circle will be offered on May 27, June 24, July 22 and Aug. 26, from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. at Support Connection, 40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights.

Monday's:

Crafts for Kids: The Kent Public Library will be presenting a series of free DIY (do it yourself) Crafts for Kids, ages 8 to 11, on the first three Mondays in May from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is required, and there is still room available for the programs on May 11 and 18. On May 11 kids will make their own pasta necklace and find out what other cool things they can create with uncooked food. On May 18 kids will create colorful bowls using yarns and their own creativity. Please register by calling the library at 845-225-8585 or going to the library's website at WWW.KENTLIBRARY.ORG. The Kent Public Library is located at 17 Sybil's crossing, Kent Lakes.

Artists' Drop-in at Reed Library: 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Artists are invited to drop-in to the library on Monday afternoons with their pencils, pads and paints for a creative afternoon. This session will provide camaraderie but not instruction. Please call the library if interested, 845-225-2439.

Tuesday's:

Certified Application Counselor from Open Door will be available to answer questions and make appointments for consumers to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Brewster Public Library. Walk-ins are welcome, but to schedule an appointment, please call 914-502-1478 or email insurancecoverage@odfmc.org. For more information about either of these services, call the Brewster Public Library at 845-279-6421

Wednesday's:

Wednesdays is Ladies Day: Ladies will receive a round of golf and lunch at the Terrace Grill for \$50. Special Menu Selections. Wednesday only. For more information/Questions please call 845-424-3604, or visit our website www.thegarrison.com.

In-Stitches Knitting Club at Reed Library (845-225-2439). Wednesday mornings 10:30 to noon and Thursday evenings 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Beginners and experienced knitters and crocheters are

welcomed in this fun and friendly group.

Thursday's:

Basic Drawing at Reed Library: 10 a.m. to noon. Learn basic watercolor techniques in a fun and supportive class perfect for beginners. Materials provided. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

Foreclosure Counseling will be offered by Putnam County Housing Corporation (PCHC). 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. If you're facing foreclosure, PCHC may be able to help. PCHC, a HUD-certified Housing Agency, offers free confidential counseling to assist you in negotiating with your mortgage company. Brewster Public Library. Walk-ins are welcome, or call 845-225-8493 ext.201 to schedule time.

Saturday's:

Technical Help at the Kent Public Library: On Saturday mornings in May and June from 10 to 12 the Kent Public Library will be offering drop in technical help. Bring your tablets, smartphones, computers and other devices, and our tech expert, Sergio, will help you solve problems and learn to use your devices to do more things. The Kent Library computer lab will also be open. There is no charge, and no appointment is necessary. For more information, call the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585 or go to KentLibrary.org.

Cancer Support:

Support Connection, Inc., a not-for profit organization that provides free, confidential support services for people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, offers a wide range of free support groups women with breast and ovarian cancer. Groups focus on topics pertaining to living with cancer through all stages of diagnosis, treatment and post-treatment. They are offered in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess, and by toll-free teleconference. For a complete calendar of groups at all locations, visit www.supportconnection.org. Advance registration is required for all groups; call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Tuesday, June 16

Author Linda Dahl Book Cover: Loving Our Addicted Daughters Back to Life: A Guidebook for Parents. 7 p.m. for a book talk by author Linda Dahl entitled Loving Our Addicted Daughters Back to Life: A Guidebook for Parents. The Cultural Art Coalition is sponsoring this free event at The Studio Around the Corner 67 Main Street in Brewster.

Wednesday, June 17

Emergency Preparedness Training at Kent Library: Are you and your family prepared for an emergency? Presented by the New York National Guard, this program at the Kent Public Library 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. will provide an introduction to responding to a natural or man-made disaster. Each participant will receive a certificate, a "Z card" and learn how to make an emergency preparedness kit.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to never be caught unprepared for a disaster. This is a free event, but registration is required. You may register for the program by going to www.kentlibrary.org or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

Saturday, June 20

Climb Out of the Darkness: As part of the world's largest event raising awareness of maternal mental illnesses such as postpartum depression (PPD), anxiety, OCD and psychosis. As part of the Climb, survivors all over the world – dubbed Warrior Moms – are organizing to climb, hike or walk at a local mountain or park to symbolize their collective rise out of the darkness and stigma of maternal mental illnesses, as well as to raise funds for Postpartum Progress, a non-profit organization and online community of support resources for women around the world.

The Hudson Valley/Housatonic Climb will be held at Sal J. Prezioso Mountain Lakes Park in North Salem 10 a.m. All participants must register beforehand at <http://bit.ly/COTDHudsonValley2015>. Sponsorships from local businesses are also being accepted. Please contact local Climb Leaders Mariah Warren (845-319-2127 or gaelcat@comcast.net) or Stephanie Trzyna (203-731-7276 or spaige08@yahoo.com) for more information.

Friends of Classical Music at Arts on the Lake presents Broadway performer Marcus Lovett with Laurence Hobgood at the Sedgewood Boathouse. 8 pm. For additional information and to purchase tickets, visit artsonthelake.org.

Cookie Walk Sale: Shop for a variety of home-baked cookies. Just in time for Fathers' Day and graduation celebrations. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 6N & Secor Road, Mahopac. Rain or Shine. For more information please call 845-628-2365 or email presby411@verizon.net

Habitat for Humanity Shoe Drive: Please donate your gently worn, outgrown or discarded shoes for the benefit of Habitat For Humanity – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 6N & Secor Road, Mahopac.

Mt Beacon Plane Crash Hike: Hike up Fishkill Ridge to the site where a plane crashed and claimed the lives of six Navy Veterans on Mt. Beacon on 11/11/1945. Some remains of the plane wreckage are still present at the crash site. Plans are underway to preserve this hallowed ground along with a memorial ceremony in the fall. Meet in the parking lot at the intersection Sunnyside Rd. & Fairview Rd. - look for the "Scenic Hudson Fishkill Ridge" sign. Bring water and bug spray. Pre-registration requested. Hike starts promptly at 10:30am. Rain or shine. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. •Admission: Free. Sunnyside Rd. & Fairview Rd.. Fishkill. 914-819-8792

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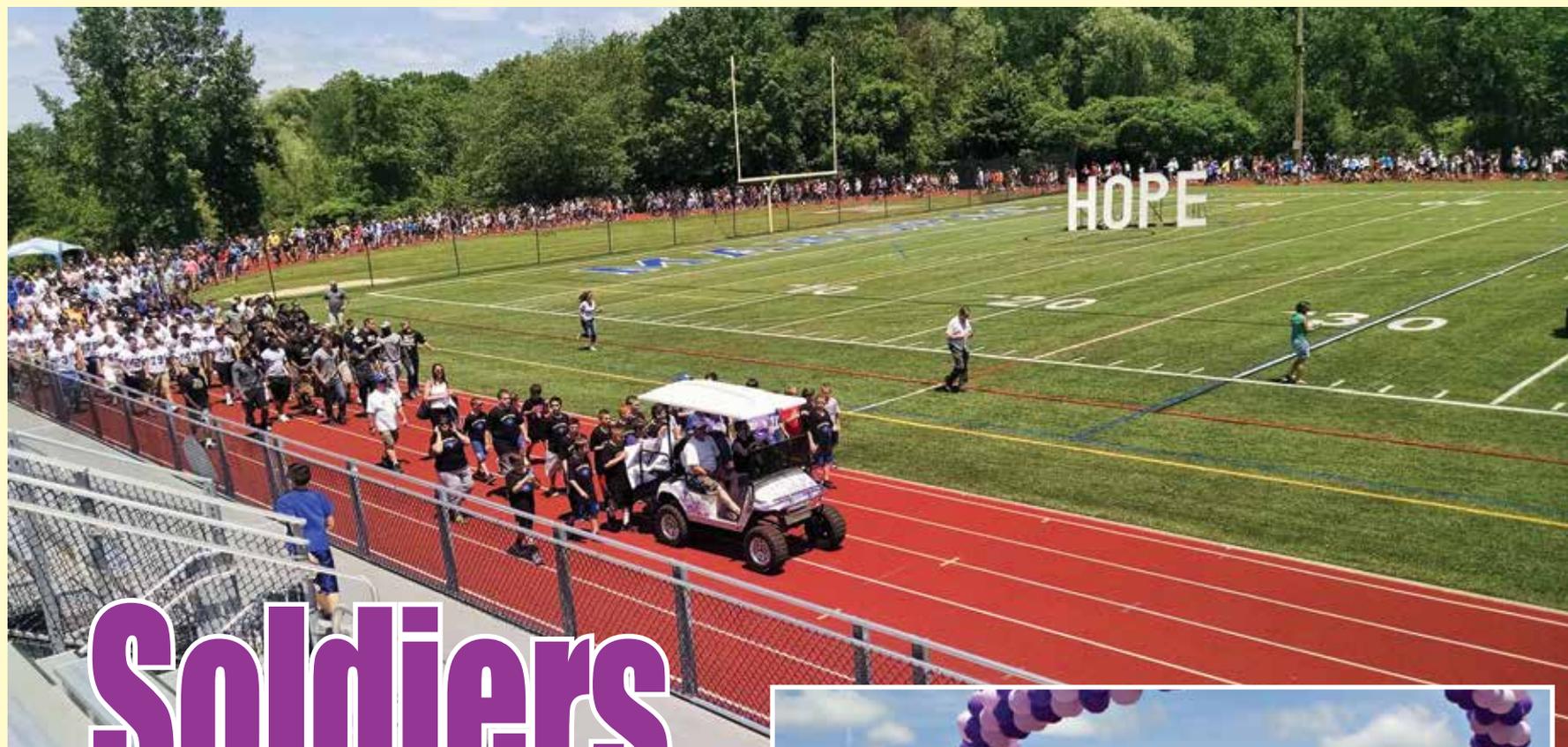
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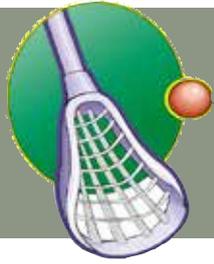


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 Callahan's Army
 Turns out in Force**

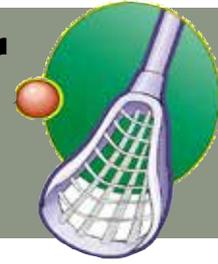


RAY GALLAGHER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

Sean's Soldiers, nearly 1,000 strong behind Mahopac 6th-grader Sean Callahan, march at the annual Relay for Life event at Mahopac High School where they paid homage to the young man who has battled cancer valiantly since birth. Members of the Mahopac community, who are truly inspired by Callahan, were joined by members of the Army football team (inset photo) as they lapped the track last Saturday afternoon and raised more than \$100,000 as a team to help fight the fight against cancer... see Direct Rays



Putnam/North. Westchester Examiner Lax Team



By Ray Gallagher, Examiner Sports Editor



Player of the Year: Michael Dedvukaj, Yorktown



Defensive MVP: Max Littleton, Mahopac

ATTACK

Justin Cavallo (Yorktown) – 45 goals and 60 points by an All-Section sophomore... this kid is the truth.

Mike Smith (Hen Hud) – a middie by trade, he'll move to attack on this squad... 59 goals and 72 total points puts the junior Sailor on pace to shatter the school's all-time scoring records next year.

Kevin Prunty (Lakeland) – yeah, the Rebels were not what we're accustomed to this year, but you put this junior on Yorktown's attack and he'd accumulate goals in bushels.



MIDFIELD

Dan Foley (Mahopac) – the junior 40-goal scorer was the horse the Indians rode to the Class A finals this season. We suspect he'll return to White Plains next year, hell-bent!

Ryan Baker (Yorktown) – the 41-goal scoring All-American selflessly sacrificed his body for the good of his team, converting to a face-off man and winning 63% off the draw while scooping a team-high 96 GBs. UMBC is getting a good one.

Michael Dedvukaj (Yorktown) – Monmouth-bound senior All-American was the Karl Malone of Yorktown lax; the Mailman always delivered, posting up poles for a team-high 54 goals and leading the Huskers to the NYS Final 4.

LONG STICK MIDS

Aidan Hynes (Mahopac) – Crafty, Yale-bound All-Section junior will be one of the top poles in Section 1 next year.

Jose Boyer (Yorktown) – Saddle up for a wild ride from this All-Section sophomore, who is a GB machine (92 on the year) and a budding face-off man.



GOALIE

Liam Donnelly (Yorktown) – In addition to making the key saves, the junior netminder starts transition as well as any in the section... expect a big year in 2016.

CLOSE D

Max Littleton (Mahopac) – If you ask this scribe, there wasn't a better, more physical pole in this neck of the woods than Mercy-bound Mad Max this season.

Joe Spor (Somers) – While the Tuskers may have had a sub-par season (for them), this senior led the unit that played Yorktown as tough as anyone did this season.

Tim Forbes (Yorktown) – The All-Section senior quietly went about his business as perhaps the steadiest pole on the best defense in Section 1.



Sports

Mahopac Rallies for One of Its Own at Relay for Life Sean's Soldiers Raise \$100K in Fight Against Cancer



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor

You can say what you want and think what you want about Mahopac, but when push comes to shove nobody does it bigger or better than the town that just rallied like no other town in America did to help stomp out cancer at the Relay for Life event at Mahopac High last weekend.

You can say we're racists (if you subscribe to that type of broad-stroke ignorance), you can say we beat up our varsity coaches (because one guy tried to), you can say we taunt our opponents and we run around with a sense of entitlement (we've brought a lot of this on ourselves the last two years).

But you gotta give it up for Mahopac when it comes to uniting for a cause. Eyewitness News wasn't there this weekend, nor were the news vans that fly up from the big city when something bad

bad apples have branded the town as public enemy number one throughout parts of New York State, but the way this town stood behind young Sean Callahan -- arm in arm, unified and dignified -- could bring a grown man to tears (to that I can attest).

I saw some of the 88 teams and 906 participants from the Mahopac area that had raised close to \$215,000 to battle cancer, but the team that impressed most was "Sean's Soldiers", the 1,000-strong contingent behind Mahopac's Callahan that moved many to tears Saturday afternoon.

Those that paced the track for Sean's Soldiers had raised over \$100,000 on their own in the fight against cancer, making Callahan a celebrity along the battle frontier. On top of his local notoriety, Callahan, known in Mahopac as the 6th-grader who loves all sports and battles valiantly against pediatric brain tumors, hit the nation's highest earning power in the fight against cancer.



"It was a really fun day," said Callahan. "I had a great time with my team. Thanks to all."

Once again Sean Callahan has been asked to fight the insidious disease of cancer, something no child should ever have to do. As many in the region know, Sean and his whole family have been in this battle since his birth. Many times he has bravely fought back, and the ear-to-ear smile on his face was as stirring as anything I've been beholding to in a long, long time.

His dad, Dan Callahan, a widely respected youth coach in the MSA and administrator in the NYS public school system, and Sean's mom, Janine, were inspired by the outpouring of love and support; from Bad Mikey's Fitness

Center, the Mahopac High football team, the Mahopac Sports Association, St. John's Parish and its CYO, to the West Point Cadets and all means in between.

"It was a special day for all involved," Janine Callahan said. "We are so thankful to everyone for coming out to support Sean but also to support everyone's dream of finding a cure for cancer."

If you ever doubted the power of sports, think again: Support for Sean Callahan has come from places like the local youth programs at MSA, the Mahopac High football team, Army football, the NY Yankees and the NY Giants... the support has spanned all levels of sport.

Army adopted the 12-year-old Callahan as an official member of its football team before the 2014 season as part of the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation, and a contingent of Black Knights led the Mahopac community around the track.

So you see, Mahopac's the same town it always was and always will be; a bold, sports-enthused town that stands up for itself and rallies behind every good cause it can; just as it did last year when Mahopac senior Michael Dacey -- of Mighty Mike's Trailblazers -- effected so many with his warm heart and giant smile as he fights the fight, too.

"Mahopac is a special place with special people," Dan Callahan said. "We are fortunate to live here."



Members of the Mahopac community saluted Sean Callahan for his bravery and courage as he battles a form of cancer.

It's not the town that has been negatively portrayed as racists and bigots because of a couple of misguided fools. It's more the town that raised as much money in the



Thousands packed the stands at Mahopac High for the Relay for Life event last weekend where scores of money was raised to fight the dread of cancer.

fight against cancer as any settlement in America; take a bow, Mahopac, you've earned the right to do so.

There's a very special young man, a hero to many, who thanks you.



RAY GALLAGHER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

Sean Callahan leads Sean's Soldiers around the Mahopac track last Saturday.

happens in Mahopac; probably because the story wasn't juicy enough to stir the illicit pot Mahopac has been placed in over the last couple of years. Yeah, a few



MSA fixture Ray Stahl (in blue MSA garb) and hundreds of other Mahopacians joined Sean's Soldiers.



Over 1,000 of Sean's Soldiers walked in unity to help Mahopac's Sean Callahan fight the dread of cancer at Mahopac High last Saturday at the Relay for Life event.



Local bagpipers walk the illuminated track at Mahopac High, which honored and remembered the souls lost to cancer.

Carmel, Brewster Reppin' at States



ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

Peter 2nd in Golf, DiVittorio 4th in Pentathlon

Carmel Freshman Lauren Peter is working her way up the ladder. After placing third in the state last season, Peter nearly won the NYSPHSAA girls' golf tournament last Sunday but settled for second place at The College of GC on the SUNY Delhi campus. Peter, the reigning Section 1 champion, led the Section 1 contingent to a first place team finish with consecutive even-par rounds of 72. Meanwhile, Brewster's Brent DiVittorio posed with Coach Joe Scelia (left) after placing fourth among large schools in the pentathlon at the NYSPHSAA state meet at SUNY Albany last Saturday. DiVittoio, a senior, set a new school record of 3,188 points. Carmel senior Benito Muniz was fourth in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 4:12.23 while Lakeland/Panas' Josh Dacres was fourth in the 200 dash at 21.73.